WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A layout editing system for arranging page structural elements in an electronic document, comprising:

a display device;

a first supply device to supply said display device with an electronic document having a grid provided with a plurality of first attraction points for display on said display device;

a second supply device to supply a page structural element whose outline is demarcated by a frame on the electronic document displayed on said display device, said structural element provided with a plurality of attractive second attraction points to adjust its position in accordance with said plurality of first attraction points;

a movement device to hold said page structural element and to move said page structural element to a desired location in said electronic document by manual user operation; and

an attraction state control to control attraction of only one second attraction point selected from said plurality of second attraction points while said page structural element is being held by said movement device.

2. The layout editing system of claim 1, wherein said movement device comprises a pointing device, and said page structural element is kept in a held state by keeping said pointing device's button pressed down.

3. The layout editing system of claim 2, further comprising an attractive operation mode setting mechanism to selectively set a first attractive operation mode that sets a state of attracting to all of said plurality of first attraction points, and a second attractive operation mode that sets a state of attracting only to a selected predetermined pattern within said plurality of first attraction points.

4. The layout editing system of claim 1, further comprising an attractive operation mode setting mechanism to selectively set a first attractive operation mode that sets a state of attracting to all of said plurality of first attraction points, and a second attractive operation

mode that sets a state of attracting only to a selected predetermined pattern within said plurality of first attraction points.

5. The layout editing system of claim 4, wherein said attractive operation mode setting mechanism comprises a predetermined specified key on the keyboard, and said second attractive operation mode is set by holding said specified key pressed down.

6. The layout editing system of claim 1, wherein said movement device comprises a cursor displayed on said display device, and said attraction state control makes only the second attraction point nearest to said cursor attractive when said cursor is positioned inside said page structural element frame and said page structural element is being held by said movement device.

7. A layout editing method for arranging page structural elements in an electronic document, comprising:

displaying an electronic document having a grid provided with a plurality of first attraction points on a display device;

displaying a page structural element whose outline is demarcated by a frame on the electronic document displayed on said display device, said page structural element provided with a plurality of attractive second attraction points to adjust its position in accordance with said plurality of first attraction points;

holding said page structural element and among said plurality of second attraction points setting only a second attraction point nearest to said cursor in an attractive state and setting a probe point that keeps the relative positional relationship of that second attraction point and said cursor at a time of detecting that the cursor is positioned inside the frame of said page structural element and that a button of a pointing device linked to said cursor is pressed down; and

when said pointing device is operated in a holding state and said cursor is moved, linking said second attraction point in the attractive state to movement of said cursor and moving said second attraction point and attracting it to a first attraction point nearest to said probe point, and moving said page structural element.

8. The layout editing method of claim 7, further comprising the step of selecting a first attractive operation mode that sets a state of attracting to all of said plurality of first attraction points, and a second attractive operation mode that sets a state of attracting only to a selected predetermined pattern within said plurality of first attraction points.

9. The layout editing method of claim 8, wherein said first or second attractive operation mode is selected depending on whether a predetermined specified key on the keyboard is pressed down or released respectively.

10. An apparatus comprising a computer-readable storage medium tangibly embodying program instructions for causing a computer to:

display an electronic document having a grid provided with a plurality of first attraction points on a display device;

display a page structural element whose outline is demarcated by a frame on the electronic document displayed on said display device, said page structural element provided with a plurality of attractive second attraction points to adjust its position in accordance with said plurality of first attraction points;

hold said page structural element and among said plurality of second attraction points setting only a second attraction point nearest to said cursor in an attractive state and setting a probe point that keeps the relative positional relationship of that second attraction point and said cursor at a time of detecting that the cursor is positioned inside the frame of said page structural element and that a button of a pointing device linked to said cursor is pressed down; and

when said pointing device is operated in a holding state and said cursor is moved, link said second attraction point in the attractive state to movement of said cursor and move said second attraction point, attract it to a first attraction point nearest to said probe point, and move said page structural element.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, further comprising instructions to cause the computer to select one of a first attractive operation mode and a second attractive operation mode, the

first attractive operation mode setting a state of attracting to all of said plurality of first attraction points, the second attractive operation mode setting a state of attracting only to a selected predetermined pattern within said plurality of first attraction points.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said first or second attractive operation mode is selected depending on whether a predetermined specified key on the keyboard is pressed down or released respectively.

13. A layout editing system for arranging page structural elements in an electronic document, comprising:

a display;

a memory that stores an electronic document and a page structural element to be output on the display, the electronic document having a grid provided with a plurality of first attraction points, the page structural element having a plurality of attractive second attraction points and an outline demarcated by a frame;

a movement device; and

a processor coupled to the memory, the display and the movement device, the processor configured to adjust a position of the page structural element on the display in response to user operation of the movement device such that at least one of the plurality of first attraction points tends to align with at least one of the plurality of second attraction points, the processor further configured to cause only one second attraction point selected from said plurality of second attraction points to become attractive during operation of the movement device.

14. The layout editing system of claim 13, wherein the movement device comprises a pointing device, and the processor is configured to cause the only one second attraction point to be selected when a bottom on the pointing device is pressed.

15. The layout editing system of claim 14, wherein the processor is configured to operate in one of a first attractive operation mode and a second attractive operation mode, wherein in the first attractive operation mode the processor sets a state of attracting to all of

said plurality of first attraction points, and in the second attractive operation mode the processor sets a state of attracting only to a selected predetermined pattern within said plurality of first attraction points.

16. The layout editing system of claim 13, further comprising a keyboard, and wherein the processor selects one of the first and second attractive operation modes based on user input on the keyboard.

17. The layout editing system of claim 13, wherein said movement device comprises a cursor displayed on said display device, and the processor is configured to makes only the second attraction point nearest to said cursor attractive when the cursor is positioned inside the page structural element frame.